

FRENCH INDO-CHINA

ttiB8~-but threw off the Chinese yoke as well, in 931.
This brought to
an end China's political domination, though five
centuries later for a
brief Interval of fourteen years (HH²⁸) ^{china} regained
control. In
their life as a nation and as individuals, the Annamites
to this day bear
the indelible print of Chinese culture left by the first
conquest.
*The conquest of the Chams was but the first step in
that drang*
Jan which was to characterize Annamite
expansion for the
years. Under their irresistible drive, the
frontiers of
the gave way and the old kingdom of Champa -
vanished, leaving
oiiy of its admirable architecture and
ephemeral splendour.

Annamite conquest was typical of the future : the
Annamites
ift violent wake left only ruins. Unlike the
Chinese, they did riot
assimilate the vanquished, but pushed back into
the
the remnants which they had unwittingly spared, so
as to
the grarnd for their own agricultural colonization.

The same
dbamrterized their kter wars with the Khmers and
Laotians.

Not reconqiiest by the Chinese nor the
internal strife by
was ceaselessly rent could arrest this
dynamic south-

The history of modern Annam was equally
dominated by
struggles. By the end of the sixteenth century the
reigning
of Le had become decadent. The power that was
slipping from
disputed by three great rivals who, for the next few
for it among themselves and with the nominal
In &e seventeenth century the Mac family
experienced a
only to disappear before an insurrection that
a more than a hundred years kter. A
parallel to the
has often bem drawn with that of the Merovingians

and of tibe Palace in Prankish times, only
the Les had
of strength. To this, day their name,, like that of the
in Eagkod, serves as a raMying-cry for rebellion in
tfat 1m tlie depesdad^or support upon
the Chinese,
ifetibft., IW, irattihegii 4mma paled in
fit tad cebtatk, fcefera tfoe
destructive
«rf ttp feial»-Hj» . Nguyws pf ' CocMp-
China, as
ti* mm ;witfa fte Trirfig pf Tonkin.
10 wowgfie^y fcyc.the Poitogae^e, this put
anA-fctoogr warfare of
the opt
fat, lie Hng_f Bgiifw* AaK/TO driven
center But Ife pr^eace ,
8 «1
4*